

## ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

[0063] The systems and methods of the present invention teach critical thinking skills in a computer-based environment, and particularly in a computer network-based environment. In one embodiment, the present invention is a method in which information and a question are presented to a learner and the learner is asked to answer the question and justify his or her answer. The learner may view reference material, which may include information provided by a "coach," to assist in answering the question and justifying his or her answer. After providing an answer and a justification, an analysis is performed generating at least one result. Thereafter, the at least one result is provided to the learner along with an expert's answer and justification.. The learner may then review other learners' answers and justifications and otherwise interact with other answers and justifications, such as by selecting the best justifications, rating the justifications, and e-mailing comments to other learners.